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5/28/97

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

4298 Elysian Fields Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122
Telephone (504) 589-7166
Fax (504) 589-4657

May 21, 1997

WARNING LETTER NO. 97-NOL-46

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Kenneth L. Girouard, Owner
Blanchard's Seafood, Inc.
1348A Bayou Alexandre Highway
St. Martinville, LA 79582

Dear Mr. Girouard:

During an inspection of your crawfish processing facility, Blanchard's Seafood, Inc., St. Martinville, LA on 4/29-5/5/97, our investigator documented numerous objectionable insanitary conditions in your processing operation. This causes your product, peeled crawfish tail meat, to be adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Objectionable conditions noted included: (1) employees placing the dustpan from the floor in direct contact with cooked crawfish; (2) cook employee handling live crawfish and then handling cooked crawfish; (3) dirty encrusted product handling equipment; (4) condensate falling from the cooking room ceiling onto cooked crawfish; (5) raw sewage overflowing outside the plant; and (6) numerous improper employee practices, including employees handling unsanitary objects then handling cooked product without washing and sanitizing their hands.

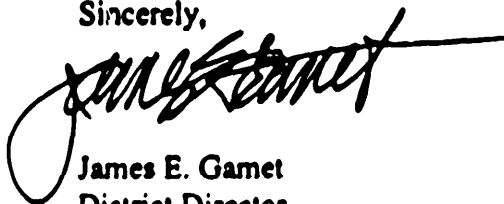
The above identification of violations is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of deficiencies at your facility. It is your responsibility to assure adherence with each requirement of the Good Manufacturing Practice Regulations.

You should take prompt action to correct these deviations. Failure to promptly correct these deviations may result in regulatory action without further notice. This may include seizure and/or injunction.

You should notify this office in writing, within 15 working days of receipt of this letter of the steps you have taken to correct the noted violations, including an explanation of each step being taken to prevent the recurrence of similar violations. If corrective action can not be completed within 15 working days, state the reason for this delay, and the time within which the corrections will be completed.

Your response should be directed to Richard D. Debo, Compliance Officer, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, 4298 Elysian Fields Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70122, telephone number (504) 589-7166. Should you have any questions concerning the contents of this letter, or if you desire a meeting with the agency staff, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Debo.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Gamet", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**James E. Gamet
District Director
New Orleans District**

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